

## Amusements, Lectures, etc., This Evening.

ROTH'S THEATRE, Twenty-third-st., between Fifth and Sixth aves.—"Palmer's" Harlequin.  
FIFTH-AVE. THEATRE.—"The Duke's Motto."  
NIBLO'S GARDEN.—"Little Emily."  
OLYMPIC THEATRE.—"Under the Gaslight."  
THE TAMMANY.—"Bad Deed." "Nan, the good-for-nothing."  
WALLACE'S THEATRE, Broadway and Thirtieth-st.—"The Wonder." Lester Wallack.  
WOOD'S THEATRE, Broadway and 30th-st.—From 9 a. m. to 10 p. m. At 7, "Kathleen," and 8, "Dorabella."—Gust.  
APOLLO HALL, Twenty-eighth-st. and Broadway—Day and Evening. The Carol's Oink.  
DOWDNEY HALL.—The Two-headed Girl.  
NATIONAL ACADEMY OF DESIGN.—Twenty-third-st. and Broadway.—Third Water Exhibition.  
NEW-YORK CIRCUS, Fourteenth-st.—Grand Programme. "Cinderella." Equestrian.  
SAN FRANCISCO MINSTRELS.—Miscellaneous performances.  
SOMERVILLE ART GALLERY, No. 82 Fifth-ave.—Exhibition of "The Nine Muses." Water Color Drawings.

## Business Notices.

MOORE'S RURAL NEW-YORKER, for December 25, contains a splendid full page engraving of the Palace of Versailles at the recent State Fair. Shows the best Picture ever given to an American newspaper. Also, a magnificent Christmas Picture, and other fine illustrations.  
The issue gives, in some number, shows that Moore's RURAL NEW-YORKER, besides thousands of minor ones, with over Eight Hundred Illustrations—many of which are large and expensive. And  
THE RURAL NEW-YORKER, 1870.  
(No. 1, Vol. XXII.) will manifest the spirit of the Editor, "Pierpont" and "O'Brien," "Pierpont" and "O'Brien," in both contents and style. It will contain articles by the best Rural, Scientific and Literary Writers, and be illustrated by the best and most celebrated artists. Moore's RURAL NEW-YORKER is not only the Largest, Best and Cheapest, but also the Leading and Largest Circulation of any paper in the World! For sale by all Newsdealers; price 5 cents. See advertisement elsewhere in this paper.

HOLIDAY TRADE.  
THE HERIDEN BRITANNIA CO.,  
No. 129 Broadway, New-York.  
Invite attention of Dealers to their  
ELEGANT AND UNEQUALLED  
assortment of  
NICKEL, SILVER, AND FINE WHITE METAL  
ELECTRO-PLATED TABLE WARE  
of every description, including their  
PATENT PORCELAIN-LINED ICE-PITCHERS  
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SILVER-PLATED,  
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THE LATEST IMPROVEMENT AND BEST ARTICLES MADE.  
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HOLIDAY PRESENTS.—Save money in buying  
CIGARETTES by going to R. & H. T. ANDREWS & CO., No. 201 Broadway, opposite Metropolitan Hotel. STERILIZED, VIRGIN, AND  
CIGARETTES, FRANKLIN.  
Wedding, Ball, and New-Year's CARDS,  
Illustrated with PAPER, MONOGRAMS, &c. EVERETT'S NEW 41/2 by 10, 202 Broadway.  
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THE PERUVIAN SYRUP,  
AN IRON TONIC,  
MAKES THE WEAK STRONG.  
PREPARE FOR WINTER.—PATENT WEATHER  
STRIPS.  
ARTIFICIALITY.—PALMER LINDSAY,  
678 Broadway, N. Y., 1,000 Chestnut st., Phila.; 41 Green st., Boston.

## TERMS OF THE TRIBUNE.

DAILY TRIBUNE, Mail Subscribers, \$10 per annum.  
Semi-Weekly Tribune, Mail Subscribers, \$5 per an.  
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## UP-TOWN ADVERTISEMENTS.

For the accommodation of up-town residents, E. H. Brown has opened an office at No. 54 West Thirty-second-st., junction of Broadway and Sixth-ave., where advertisements for THE TRIBUNE will be received up to 11 in the evening.

## New-York Daily Tribune.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 24, 1869.

The lease of the Bay of Samana to the United States has reawakened the revolutionary fever in San Domingo. The session of St. Thomas and Santa Cruz is again closed. Another conspiracy has been set on foot against Gen. De Rodas. An inflammatory proclamation has been circulated in Havana. A Spanish massacre of prisoners occurred at Pinar del Rio. The Russo-Polish clergy have instructed their delegates to Rome to vote against the dogma of infallibility. Ministers McMahon and Worthington testify that the Dictatorship of Lopez was humane. The Cuban history of Mr. Lemus's negotiations with Mr. Fish is elsewhere published.  
A severe gale at Buffalo backed up the water in Lake Erie and washed away portions of the New York Central and the Erie Railroad tracks. According to a Texas telegram, Davis is elected Governor by 400 majority.  
Andrew Johnson will not visit Washington this winter. The Internal Revenue tax is suspended on pork-packers as manufacturers. The steamer Entaw is ashore near Atlantic City. Oliver A. Morgan was executed at Terre Haute, Ind., yesterday.  
The preliminary steps have been taken for a World's Fair at St. Louis. Destructive fires have occurred at Muscatine, Iowa, St. Charles, Minn., and Madison, Wis. John Dickey, convicted in Bergen County, N. J., of murder, committed suicide in his prison yesterday.  
There is a rumor that the yacht Meteor of this port has been lost at sea. The Spanish frigate Isabel Cacho has arrived at New-York. Charles Edwards was accidentally shot in a saloon in Brooklyn.  
Judge McCann has visited Alderman Florence Seannell and administered to him the oath of office. Gold, 120 1/2, 121, 120 1/2. Temperature, 34, 35, 37, 32.

As the Spaniards have declared that the Cuban rebels were forced to enter the City of Cienfuegos from hunger, we trust they will yet be obliged to take Trinidad from thirst. If they could devour so much of the former, they certainly can swallow the latter. We doubt not they both hunger and thirst for Havana.

Winnipeg has effectually turned its Governor out to pasture, and defeated his first efforts to organize a reaction. The danger of an extensive Indian war is rumored; but, altogether, the prime trouble in hand is Canada's, and not Winnipeg's. It is easy for the Red River people to make war, but not so easy for the Dominion to put it down.

Our letter from Egypt (forming, with our correspondence from Rome, a striking record of the greatest events of the age), is the first thorough chapter yet written upon the practical success of the great Canal by an American who has had opportunities of surveying it impartially. That the Canal has shortcomings, every reader will see; but that it contains in its future far more promise than Englishmen will promise for it, is apparent, too.

The Spaniards in Cuba have produced an eighth wonder of the world, and a last miracle, let us hope, of barbarism. A choice band of them have contrived a scheme for the emancipation, the education, and moralization of the blacks. They propose to set them free, but first on condition that they shall be apprenticed ten years to their former owners, and second, that they shall be allowed to import as many thousands of "African savages" as they please to undergo the same kind of apprenticeship at nominal or infinitesimal

wages. A glance will be sufficient to see through this charming plan of perpetuating bondage and re-coloring Cuba with a deeper shade of barbarism. In short, the new philanthropists propose to reopen the African slave-trade, with a view to the "Christianization of savages!" But which are the savages, and who most need to be Christianized—these Spaniards or the Africans?

In Kings County raising salaries is now the chief employment of the Supervisors. The remuneration of the Deputy County Treasurer is to be increased one hundred per cent, and it is proposed to double the pay of Poor-House watchmen. Thus we reap the fruits of the late Democratic victory. All that the Ring now wants is annexation to New-York, so that the barren soil of Long Island may be made as fruitful to the Democratic gold-diggers as the sands of Patuxent.

A curious case came up in our Supreme Court, before Judge Ingraham, yesterday. It was a suit for the value of a box alleged to contain pistols, ordered in 1863 by a man claiming to be a member of the Union League at Hantsville, Ind. The claim is that the box was opened and the arms taken out, as when it was delivered it contained only bricks and straw. This trick, it is charged, was played by the Knights of the Golden Circle, and on the supposition of such robbery the Express Company seeks to be relieved from responsibility. But the jury did not take that view, and found a verdict for the plaintiff.

A cloud of claimants, some of whom remind us of those unclean birds so familiar in tropical travel, have swooped down upon the Mexican Commission. Messrs. Cushing and Ashton are wise enough to have a care; but we cannot warn them too often that there are many shades and shapes to the general fiction of which Gardiner's spectral claim was a precious example. Nothing less than the partition of the entire property of Mexico would probably satisfy the worst of these claims, one of which is for the terrific sum of \$73,000,000. Will not somebody lay a claim to the continent, based on a title before Columbus's time, and bring it to the Mexican Commission? What Mexican robbers, even with Santa Anna at their head, ever made such shameful demands as these? The testimony taken before our Consuls in Mexico, which testimony there has been anxiety in some quarters to bring in evidence at Washington, will of course be well examined. Some of our Consuls, and among them the three last holders of the most important Consular office in Mexico, are said to be interested supporters of a class of claims.

As Mr. Ripley writes us from Rome, all predictions of the course of the Eccumenical Council touching the doctrine of Infallibility may be regarded premature. We are aware that so esteemed and considerable a prelate as Bishop Dupanloup has opposed as unwise the erection of a dogma, the principle of which has never before been made a test of faith, and the effect of which will be exclusive and not conciliatory. Cardinal Bonnehose, Archbishop Darboy, and Bishop Maret, though apparently reserving nothing of their affection for Rome and the Pope, entertain ideas more or less in the same drift with those of the Bishop of Orleans. The French journals venture to give us the minutes of an excited interview between the Pope and a Cardinal, in which the latter bent before the displeasure of his spiritual sovereign, evoked by this same doctrine of Infallibility; but the narrative itself is probably fallible. Finally, we have news by the Cable that the Russo-Polish clergy have instructed their delegates to the Council against the union of the temporal and spiritual power, the dogma of Infallibility, and the exclusion of foreigners from the College of Cardinals. This news, whatever its value, we are not disposed to over-estimate, and still await with some doubt the gradual unfolding of the mystery of Rome.

Meanwhile the observers of this vast great spiritual phase of human power will solace themselves with the impressions of the great ceremony of opening the Council. The array of the hierarchy of the Church, the splendor and repose of church worship, the character as well as the influence of those who constitute the mass of remarkable men who have made the humblest observance of unquestioning piety to the Pope, are admirably described in our correspondence, where also may be found a translation of the Pope's Allocution.

## IGNATIUS DONNELLY, EX-M. C.

This gentleman has favored us with a reply to our recent notice of him much longer than that notice. We cannot print it *verbatim*, but we will give its substance this conspicuous position.

I. Mr. Donnelly insists that he was not the bolting candidate in his district last year, but that his Republican opponent was, and points triumphantly to their vote respectively—Donnelly 11,229, Andrews 8,595—as proving his assertion.—We gave that vote fully and fairly in our former article; but we do not give it the force that he does. Mr. Donnelly was a young man and new to the State when the Republicans of his district took him up (in 1864) and elected him to Congress; reflecting him in 1866. Not being a Clay nor a Webster, many Republicans thought two terms should satisfy him; but he insisted on another, divided the party, and threw away the seat. Now, a true man, we think, would have said, "Since there is a considerable part of my Republican constituents who wish me to step aside, I will do it," "harmonize the district, and save the seat." Mr. Donnelly chose the opposite course, and threw the seat away. We think this proves him a false, selfish, unworthy man, and justifies our conviction that he cares nothing for the Republican party except as it ministers to his own aggrandizement.

II. Mr. Donnelly denies that the "Independent" "ent ticket," with the Opposition candidate for Governor at its head, which came so near defeating the Republican Governor last month, was his work, and proves it. We were mistaken on that point, and retract our charge.

III. He says that he did not vote for the Protective Tariff acted on by the XXXIXth Congress at its first session—that the *Congressional Globe* has wrongly recorded his vote as for the bill—that the Journal of the House (which we do not see) correctly records him as voting against the bill. He does not say that he ever sought a correction of the wrong record made in the official organ of Congress—the only record of its votes that is distributed to the People. This matter is so important that we must give Mr. Donnelly's account of it *verbatim*. It is as follows:

"A few words in regard to my tariff record. You charge that I voted with the Protectionists, while in Congress, as a Republican. This is entirely incorrect. I voted with the Free-Traders, and I will turn to page 3,722 Part IV. *Congressional Globe*, let us see

now, XXXIXth Congress, you will find that I voted against the increase of the duties on Coal and Railroad Iron, and in favor of postponing the whole bill to the next session; and, if you will turn to page 396 of the Journal of the House, you will find that I voted against the entire bill on its final passage. I stand recorded in the *Globe* as voting for it; but this is a mistake; the record in the Journal of the House is the correct one.  
"It is true that, during the war, I sustained and defended the stump of a High Tariff, precisely as I sustained draft laws, military arrests, confiscation bills, and other measures which were deemed essential to the preservation of the National life. No sacrifice was too great if the nation demanded it on our hands. We are now in an era of profound peace; the necessity which then existed has ceased to exist; and the financial, commercial, and industrial condition of the country rises into the first consequence. Is it fair to denounce a man as a 'sinuous and slimy demagogue' for refusing to sustain as a peace necessity that which he sustained under the pressure of necessity as a War measure? Is it fair to hold that, whenever a public man changes his mind, he must necessarily be a scoundrel? I fear but few editors could stand such a test.

"Our Western country is passing through a period of gloom and embarrassment greater even than that of 1857. Our produce of all kinds scarcely pays the cost of production, while everything we purchase is inordinately high. We feel that, while we pay large taxes to the support of the Government (which we do not grudge), we are also paying still larger taxes for the support of a part of our fellow citizens who enjoy greater prosperity than we do. Out of our poverty we are made to contribute to the abundance. As a Republican, I feel that the High Tariff Protective doctrine advocated by your paper, or I lose, therefore, upon this subject, I have said through an honest and sincere conviction of duty, not only to the people, but to the party. Believe me very truly and respectfully yours,  
IGNATIUS DONNELLY.

—Having thus given Mr. Donnelly's own version of this matter, we propose to compare it with the facts:

Feb. 28, 1867 (nearly two years after the close of the War), Mr. Stevens of Pa. moved to suspend the rules of the House, and take up the bill increasing the Duties on Imports as it came back amended from the Senate. The motion to suspend the rules was defeated by 69 Nays to 102 Yeas [not the two-thirds required to suspend the rules], but among the 102 Yeas we find the name of Donnelly recorded. Is that also a mistake of the official organ?

Mr. Morrill of Vermont now asked leave to introduce a joint resolve "increasing temporarily the duties on Imports"—said joint resolve providing (without limit of time) for an increase of twenty per cent. [or one-fifth the former rate] on every article imported after ten days, except Sugar, Tea, Coffee, Salt, and Coal. To which he afterward added Railroad Iron.

Objection being made, he moved a suspension of the rules, which did not prevail: Nays 71; Yeas 95, [not two-thirds]. Again we find the name of Donnelly among the Yeas in *The Globe* (page 1659). Is that another error of the official organ?

Two days before, Mr. Morrill of Vt. had moved to close the debate on the general Tariff bill aforesaid, in order to bring the House to a vote upon its passage (as the Congress would expire within a week). This was a test question, and the friends and foes of Protection took the mark accordingly: Yeas 70; Nays 49—Donnelly among the Yeas. Is this all wrong in *The Globe*? (page 1592.)

All this, mind you, was long since the close of the War; showing that his pretense that he voted for high duties only as a War measure is false—an afterthought. His votes show what he meant then: his speech last Fall shows what he means now.

We do not care to track this man farther. He has not seen fit to deny our former statement that he recently held a debate on Political Economy, wherein he took the side of Protection against a Democrat who advocated Free Trade. We found this statement in a Minnesota paper: Do they blunder out that way like *The Globe*?

But Mr. D. asks if a man may not honestly change his mind. Certainly he may—and his party too. It is not the fact that Mr. Donnelly has changed, but that he resorts to subterfuges, dodges, and misstatements, to conceal or misrepresent that change, that stamps his course as "sinuous and slimy." Let him say frankly, "I was a Protectionist; I am now a Free-Trader; I was a Republican; I am a Free-Trader; I was a Democrat; and we shall not trouble him. We object only to his making a piratical use of the colors he has deserted."

IV. But there is a gloom and embarrassment in the West, says Mr. Donnelly; hence he is a Free-Trader. Indeed!

The North-West is suffering because of the remoteness of her markets. She is largely grain-growing—Minnesota especially so; and grain is now selling very low. We are buying heavily of Hardware, Steel, Railroad Iron, Textile Fabrics, Wines, &c., &c., of the Old World; we want to pay for these partly in Grain; but Europe has had good harvests this year, and wants little Grain from us, and that little at low prices. Were we making at home the goods we thus buy from Europe, we should have an ample market for our Grain at good prices; but they who make so much of our Cloth don't want our Bread; hence the West is embarrassed and distressed. Gen. Jackson, under similar circumstances, forty-five years ago, said that the common-sense remedy for such a state of things as Mr. Donnelly complains of was to divert six hundred thousand of our people from Agriculture to Manufactures, and thus create a market for our Agricultural staples greater than is afforded by all Europe. We believe that is the common-sense view of the matter—that the West will yet realize it. We only ask an open field and fair play, and with these we shall carry the West, as we carried it in '24 under the lead of Jackson and in '28 under that of Clay. For every Donnelly that we lose, inquiry and discussion will bring to us hundreds who live by honest, useful, productive labor, and have no sorer to heal on their political heads. We rest confidently on the sound instincts and true hearts of the People.

There is a new aspirant for the banner with a strange device. Professor Huntington, the Assistant State Geologist of New-Hampshire, is stated to have prepared his abode for the Winter on the summit of Moosilauke Mountain. The heights of learning in question are somewhere about five thousand feet above sea level. The purpose is said to be of a scientific character. That an astronomer should seek the upper air and a near approach to heavenly objects we can understand, but why a geologist should require to be elevated above the earth is not so evident. As he will have no other means of communication with the world and the rest of mankind, it is proposed to extend six miles of telegraph between him and the nearest village, Warren, N. H., to enable him to "exaltate" "Excelsior!" or "All right, De Santy!" Thoreau remarked in a pencil-note on the margin of a copy of "Kane's Polar Regions" that he had himself found specimens of the strange flora therein described by careful investigation in a swamp near Concord. In the present case an icy altitude may be substituted for an arctic latitude. We hope

especially if the Granite State pays the expenses of this hybernation on the hill of science, that a high order of results may flow earthward with the first Spring thaw.

## OUR EASTERN SHORE.

The City of New-York is a long, narrow island, nearly surrounded by navigable water; yet such were the original impediments to navigation at Hell Gate and its vicinity, that large sailing craft could only pass them at favoring states of the tide, and, even then, not without peril.

The use of steam and the persistent efforts of the Federal Government to improve the channel at Hell Gate have changed all this; and soon the passage to New-England, Nova-Scotia, and Europe, by the Sound will be safer and quicker, as well as smoother and shorter, than that by Sandy Hook.

What, then, is to hinder a great and rapid development of Commercial activity on the now neglected eastern front of our City?

The steamboats which daily ply hence to New-London, Sonington or Fall River, on the route to Boston, ought long since to have been required to land and receive their passengers on that side of the City. Their constant traversing of the path of the ferry-boats to Brooklyn, &c., is a wanton nuisance and peril. We think it can hardly outlast the year just before us. Let them say, as they should, on the East River—say opposite Madison or Union-square—and great benefits to that section of our City must be realized.

We hope soon to see docks constructed in that quarter worthy of a great emporium—docks like those of Liverpool, Glasgow, or Paris—instead of the rotten, tumble-down mantraps that now pollute and disgrace our lower wards. Soon, similar docks will confront those from the Long Island shore, and the homes of the laboring class will cluster around them, rendering that a great business quarter, and giving an enhanced value to property all around it. The steady tendency of business up-town concurs to render this result inevitable. We shall not need to send our Ocean Steamers to New-Jersey for a port, when Hell Gate shall have been so improved that they can reach us by the shorter and safer inland route, rather than by way of the Narrows.

## BRIGHT BROWN.

We are not ashamed to own to an intense admiration for Brown surnamed John L. It is true we may have little respect for him and have such fear of him that we would fain bolt and bar our doors against him as against thieves who break through and steal, but we nevertheless are bound to admire him as a master of the great art of getting money without earning it. True, again, there may be burglars and others of such unsavory ilk who may consider themselves entitled to dispute his claim to that bad preeminence, but those bungling fellows must perforce violate the law, and the more adroit Brown takes his money under the legal umbrella.

The plan of Brown is no less simple than effective. He has contracted "faithfully and thoroughly to clean" all "the paved streets" and "avenues, and all lanes, alleys, gutters," "wharves, piers, and heads of ships," in this city once a week, and certain other streets oftener, with only the proviso that while snow is upon the ground he is only required to clean gutters and crosswalks, and keep the streets "conveniently passable." He has also promised to remove all "ashes, garbage, rubbish," and "sweeping, every twenty-four hours," and in return for his services the city promises to pay him \$408,500 per annum. These being the rough materials out of which he must hew his greatness, Brown does it with a single blow. He takes his money and doesn't do his work. It is scarcely worth while in a city like New-York to inquire how he manages to attain the one without performing the other.

If Brown should honestly execute his contract he would make a profit of about \$90,000 per annum; and we are, of course, not so unreasonable as to suppose that he would be content with that meager result. Therefore, Brown must do nothing more than sweep Broadway and remove ashes occasionally, and must let all highways and byways become receptacles for accumulating filth. This will, of course, breed disease and death; but must not Brown have his profit of about \$400,000 per annum? Of course he must, for Brown, after all, is only a figure-head for the Ring, and must divide his earnings with high and mighty autocrats of Tammany. Shall the Schemers be denied their pittance only that our streets may not be fouled and our people destroyed? Certainly not, so long as repeaters can be had at the present cheap rates to vote the Straight Ticket. There may be regions of bucolic simplicity where Brown and his silent partners would be denominated swindlers, and perhaps brought to book. We are more civilized; we soften the term into the "Ring," and we vote the people into office.

## GRAIN AND GOLD.

Some of our cotemporaries attempt to throw the whole responsibility for the present depressed state of business upon Secretary Boutwell. Here is a specimen of the charges brought against the Secretary:

"The Western banks and commission houses made large advances upon wheat on the basis of a dollar and ten cents per bushel for No. 2 of Spring growth, at Chicago, when Mr. Boutwell's manipulations of gold sales depressed the price to eighty-five cents."  
The utter falsehood of this accusation is easily demonstrated. At the end of September, as we learn from *The London Economist* of December 4, the average price of wheat per quarter in the London market was quoted at 52s. 3d. At the beginning of December it was 45s. 6d., a decline of nearly thirteen per cent. Is Secretary Boutwell responsible for this fall in the price of wheat in England? The true causes of the decline we need not go far to find. Comparing the imports of wheat into Great Britain for the months of September and October, for which we have Board of Trade Returns, with the corresponding months of the seasons of 1867 and 1868, we get the following figures:

Imports of wheat and wheat flour in Sept. and Oct., 1867, 1,487,942  
Imports of wheat and wheat flour in Sept. and Oct., 1868, 1,512,923  
Imports of wheat and wheat flour in Sept. and Oct., 1869, 2,154,898  
So that the import, which, says *The Economist*, did not fall off in November, though the official figures for that month are not yet published, not only far exceeded the import following the good (English) harvest of 1868, but surpassed it to nearly as great an extent as did the importations which followed the short harvest of 1867. The result is a large over-supply, with many heavy failures in the grain trade in Liverpool and other cities of Great Britain. An important fact with regard to the British imports of grain this Fall is that they consist largely of stocks held back in the early Summer, particularly in this country, the principal single source of the British supply, the imports from America for the ten months ending in October being about one-third of the whole receipt. In May and June only 114,000

and 131,000 quarters of wheat respectively were received from the United States, but since then the imports from these States have been as follows:

July	377,048	October	377,753
August	387,619	November	354,752
September	354,752	Total, four mos.	1,469,002

A like increase is shown in the imports of flour, which are not included in the above summary.

A like increase is shown in the imports of flour, which are not included in the above summary.

Is not this unfortunate state of the principal foreign market for our large wheat crop sufficient to account for, at least, a large share of the alleged decline in the Chicago market? If the price of gold has fallen, so has the price of those imported articles for which gold or its equivalent is exchanged. Is it not better that gold should fall by natural causes, than that it should be left at the mercy of those unscrupulous gamblers who succeeded in putting it up from 140 to 160 at a bound? Fluctuations in its price are evils inseparably connected with an irredeemable paper currency. We have no disposition to belittle them. If the grain producers of the West are of opinion that fluctuations in gold have anything to do with their troubles, let them insist on a speedy return to specie payments. If gold had been left to the Wall-street operators to be maintained at 100, or 175, or 200, at their pleasure, is any one so foolish as to believe that the quotations would not have been allowed, nay, forced to drop suddenly just as soon as those operators saw a chance to make money by the fall? We think the Secretary for what he has done, but the only remedy for the evils of gold gambling, be they great or small, is in having our greenbacks exchangeable, dollar for dollar, with gold.

It was not unforeseen that the Dominicans would be much exercised concerning the lease of their Samana property. That President Baez's opponents are anxious to drive him from power before the bargain can be consummated by an act of Congress shows that the Dominicans are sensitive, if Baez is not. The Dominican Chief Magistrate, on the other hand, declares that he will annex the island to the United States rather than yield it to his enemies. We thought there were two parties to that arrangement—or would Mr. Baez prefer to annex the United States to San Domingo. That is what is likely to happen if we are to be troubled with an elephantine investment in revolutions. We hope for the best, but do not wish to acquire San Domingo by small craft or sharp practice. Our national mortification would be great if we had helped an unscrupulous ruler to a trick, and got tricked ourselves. We must soon know the truth of San Domingo.

A droll story of judicial records comes to us from Madison County, Ill. The temples of justice in that locality are always open, the county exhausting its finances, we suppose, in putting locks upon the doors of the jail. A few nights since, the Clerk of the Court discovered that a vagrant had taken up his quarters in the building, and finding the temperature rather cold, the disrespectful vagabond had made a great fire in the stove, his fuel being the records of the tribunal! He had already consumed a large number of volumes, and was, when arrested in his mad career, consigning to the devouring element the records of the last term. We once knew a lawyer who was wont to declare that, in order to promote healthy and profitable litigation, all kinds of legal records and registries, whether of judgments, deeds, or testaments, should be burned once in twenty years—and this shrewd gentleman didn't live in Illinois, either.

The official report of the expenses of the investigating committee at work during the recess of Congress has been published. In order to affect the recent election it was widely and persistently charged that this committee was spending enormous amounts of money in useless investigations, and \$50,000 and \$100,000 were named as the inside margin of its bills. It now appears that the entire expense amounts to only \$5,732, most of which is for the photographic report of the proceedings. Gen. Schenck, the chairman, who has figured in Democratic columns as the great robber of the people on this committee, puts in a bill of one hundred and seventy-nine dollars for traveling and all other charges. That is about one-tenth of the bill of the New-York City canvassers for "refreshments." Yet where is the Democratic journal that will retract the original slander?

We beg leave to call the attention of the judicial authorities of Delaware to a kind of punishment inflicted in Japan, which, as a mild corrector of social evil, beats the pillory and the whipping-post altogether. The prisoner is securely lashed to a stout wooden cross. Then a stout man sticks a spear through one side of the prisoner, and another stout man sticks another spear through the other side just where the murderer wounded his victim. This last spear, in an execution witnessed by the officers of the ship Delaware (pleasing coincidence!) was used thirteen times. There should be no more murders in Japan after an execution of this kind, according to our civilized ideas; but, somehow, we believe that murders go on there.

Traupmann, the distinguished murderer, is credited by a French paper with the imaginative remark: "I must now be as well known as Alexander Dumas." Thus does murder in *extenso* throw contempt on serial melo-drama. Had Traupmann achieved his reputation in America he might fairly have congratulated himself on being more renowned than Peter B. Sweeney, or Brigham Young, or James Fisk the younger. There's an ideal for a victim of the law!

Gen. Caballero de Rodas is reported in favor of a war with the United States. Would it not be a more cunning exploit to make war on the Carlists, or the Republicans, or the Isabellists, or the Philippine Islands, or Porto Rico, or Cuba itself, or what is more to the point—on the Spanish volunteers?

*The Congressional Directory* for the present session of Congress, edited by Major Ben. Perley Poore, is already out. Copies are furnished at the Government Printing Office for cost. The plan is so good a one, and results in giving us so good a document in this case so cheap a rate, that we suggest to Congressmen the propriety of extending it. Suppose they printing their debates in the same way, and suspending publication whenever the receipts fail to cover the expenditures.

Moore's Rural New-Yorker closes to-day its XXXth year. It is not a sensation paper, and may not win patrons so fast as some that are; but those it wins it keeps, by giving them the full worth of their money in instructive, wholesome, agreeable information, with regard to Farming and Household affairs, with a goodly array of literary matter, markets, &c., &c. We are glad that *The Rural New-Yorker* is never afraid or ashamed to be seen reading it, or hesitated to commend it to his subscribers.

## WASHINGTON.

WASHINGTON, Thursday, Dec. 23, 1869.

Secretary Boutwell has received a bill to be submitted to Congress, for carrying out the views expressed in his annual report in reference to the proposed Government loan. The bill provides that the loan be made in three classes of four hundred millions each, the first to be payable in fifteen years, and required to be paid in twenty years; the second payable in twenty years, and required to be paid in twenty-five years; and the third class payable in twenty-five years, and to be paid in thirty years. The bill also provides that the principal and interest shall be made payable in coin; that the bonds known as five twenty bonds shall be received in exchange for the new bonds; that the principal be payable in this country, and the interest payable either in the United States or in Europe, as the subscribers to the loan may desire; that the interest on the loan shall not exceed 4 per cent per annum; that the subscribers in Europe shall receive their interest at London, Paris, Berlin, or Frankfurt, as they may elect; that the loans, both principal and interest, shall be free from all taxes, deductions, or abatements of any sort, unless it shall be thought wise to subject citizens of the United States to such tax upon the income from bonds as is imposed by the laws of the United States upon income derived from other investments. Secretary Boutwell yesterday went to the Senate for the purpose of laying the bill before the Finance Committee, but in consequence of the excitement in Executive session, the bill could not be introduced, and it will be presented upon the reassembling of the Senate.

The Finance Committee, the report of which was asked for in the President's Message, has a little observed that its opinion is a matter of indifference to some of the Cabinet officers, as at present it is in effect a dead letter. It appears that, thus far, although hundreds of officers were suspended during the recess of Congress, not a single reason for suspension has been communicated to the Senate by the President, and the Senate has acted upon nominations to fill vacancies caused by suspension in the same manner it has acted upon vacancies which have occurred from death, resignation, or other like cause. The reasons for suspension in some cases may have been furnished to Committees on special application, but these cases are exceptions. In view of these facts, it is not improbable that the repeal of the law will be carried in both Houses. The number of nominations sent to the Senate during the session was about 600, including the military and naval appointments. Of this number all but about 150 were confirmed, and most of those not been considered because they have not been reached. The only important nominations yet to be disposed of are those of Sickles, Minister to Madrid, J. Russell Jones, Minister to Belgium, and the two Circuit Judgeships for the Maryland and California Circuits.

Senators Wilson and Trumbull and other prominent gentlemen called upon the President to-day, and allusion was made to the case of Attorney-General Hoar. The President expressed himself as surprised at the action of the Senate, and was assured that the principal opposition was occasioned on account of Judge Hoar's locality. The President did not indicate his future action either with the Supreme Court vacancy or the Attorney-General's place.

Mr. Hoar is reported as having said that if the Senate preferred to have him three years and a half in the Attorney-General's Office, instead of confirming him as a Justice of the Supreme Court, he was willing.

The outgoing train is crowded with Senators, Members, clerks, brokers, lobbyists, office-seekers, and hangers-on, who are making haste to reach home for their holiday recreations. A few Congressmen remain to look after matters relating to their districts in the Department, but a large part of the crowd attendant upon Congress has departed, and the city is dull again. None of the committees of Congress are in session, and many of the Department employees are away on leave.

Secretary Boutwell started to-night for his home in Groton. His duties in Boston will be carried on by the Secretary Johnson, who will spend Christmas in New-York.

Vice-President Colfax will hold but one levee this winter, because of the illness of his wife and his mother. The President will not receive visitors during the holidays, except such public officials as have business requiring his attention.

The new Minister from the United States of Columbia will arrive here on Monday.

Ex-President Johnson writes here that he has no idea of visiting Washington this winter.

## THE RESULT OF THE TEXAS ELECTION—EXPENSES OF THE COMMITTEE ON NAVAL AND MEANS—SUSPENSION OF THE PORK-PACKERS' TAX.

A telegram from Gov. Pease, dated Austin, Texas